

[54] METHOD OF EVALUATING DATA
RELATING TO A COMMON SUBJECT

[75] Inventors: Robert A. Luxenberg, Sunnyvale;
Robert J. Brown, Los Altos Hills,
both of Calif.

[73] Assignee: Interactive Network, Inc., Mountain
View, Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: 448,001

[22] Filed: Dec. 8, 1989

[51] Int. Cl.⁵ A63F 9/22; H04H 9/00

[52] U.S. Cl. 273/439; 379/92;
358/84; 455/2

[58] Field of Search 273/1 E, DIG. 28, 138 A;
358/84, 85; 455/2; 379/92

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,947,624	3/1976	Miyake	358/84
4,107,735	8/1978	Frohbach	358/84
4,151,370	4/1979	Root	455/2
4,592,546	6/1986	Frascenda et al.	273/1 E
4,630,108	12/1986	Gomersall	358/84
4,722,526	2/1988	Tovar et al.	273/1 E
4,876,592	10/1989	Von Kohorn	455/2

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Fenton, Brian C., "Interactive TV", *Radio Electronics*,
Dec. 1988, pp. 45-47, 106.

Primary Examiner—Edward M. Coven

Assistant Examiner—Jessica J. Harrison

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Flehr, Hohbach, Test,
Albritton & Herbert

[57] ABSTRACT

A method of determining the winners of, for example, a game of skill in conjunction with a football or baseball game without the input of all the scores is provided. By the use of statistical sampling a small fraction of the remote players upload their scores to a central station via a telephone line, for example. Then, when the tentative winners are determined from this small statistical sample, the mass communications link of the system downloads the statistical curve to all of the players and only those players who are equal or better than the winning score telephone. Thus, time and money are saved for the telephone up-link. Furthermore, over-crowding of the telephone system is avoided by a proper delay given the individual remote sources.

3 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

forward
citation

135

5073971

5120076

FJ 4

→ 5213357
forward/rear

